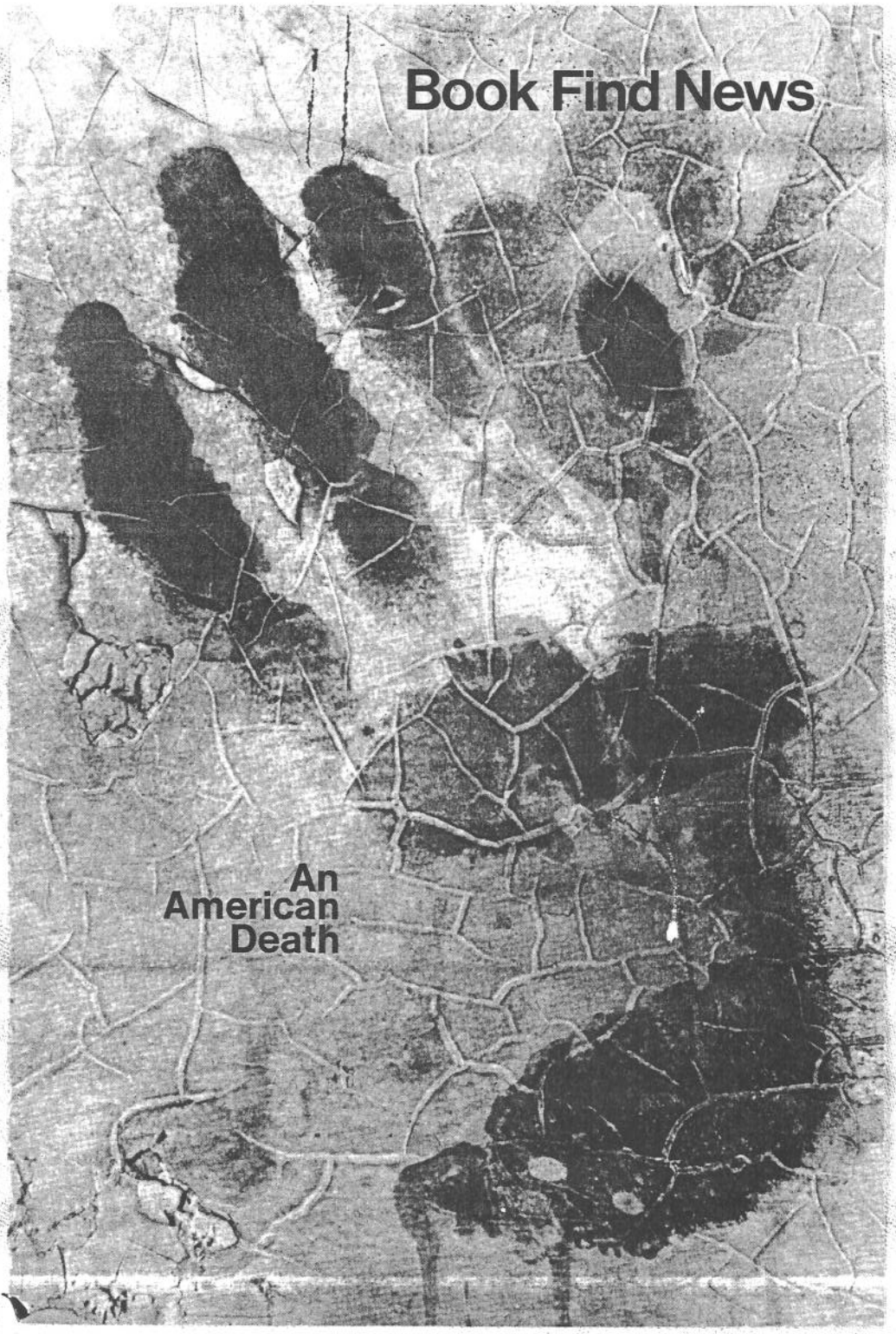

Book Find News
An
American
Death

A Book Find Selection

***A classic of true crime reporting by the author of* The Boston Strangler. . . .**

An American Death

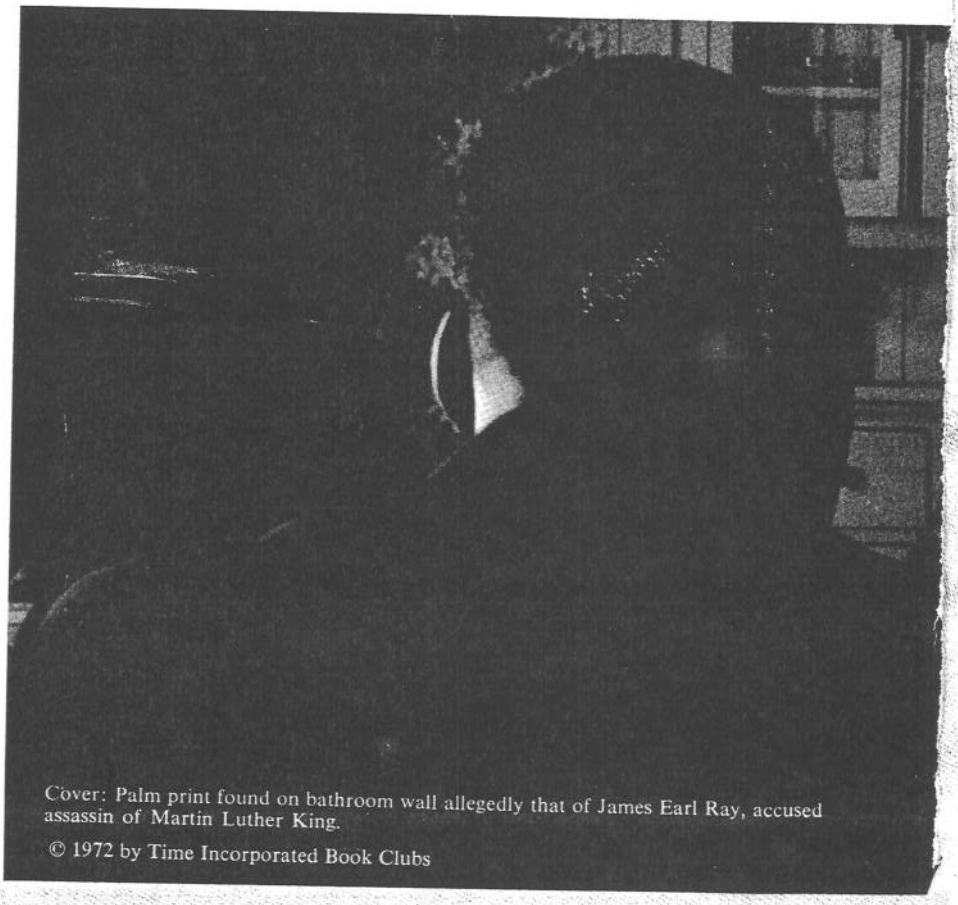
The True Story of the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Greatest Manhunt of Our Time

by Gerold Frank

Who really killed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?

Was it the hired assassin of a group of Southern white supremacists? Was it someone within King's own organization who disagreed with his non-violent principles and wanted a more militant leader? Was it a racist fanatic? The agent of a foreign power? Was it, perhaps, a man with a purely personal grudge?

Was it possible that one man *alone,* without any outside help at all, could both conceive and execute such a plan? Could an ordinary person shoot down a well-guarded public figure in the midst of his friends? Could he then walk away and virtually disappear?



Cover: Palm print found on bathroom wall allegedly that of James Earl Ray, accused assassin of Martin Luther King.

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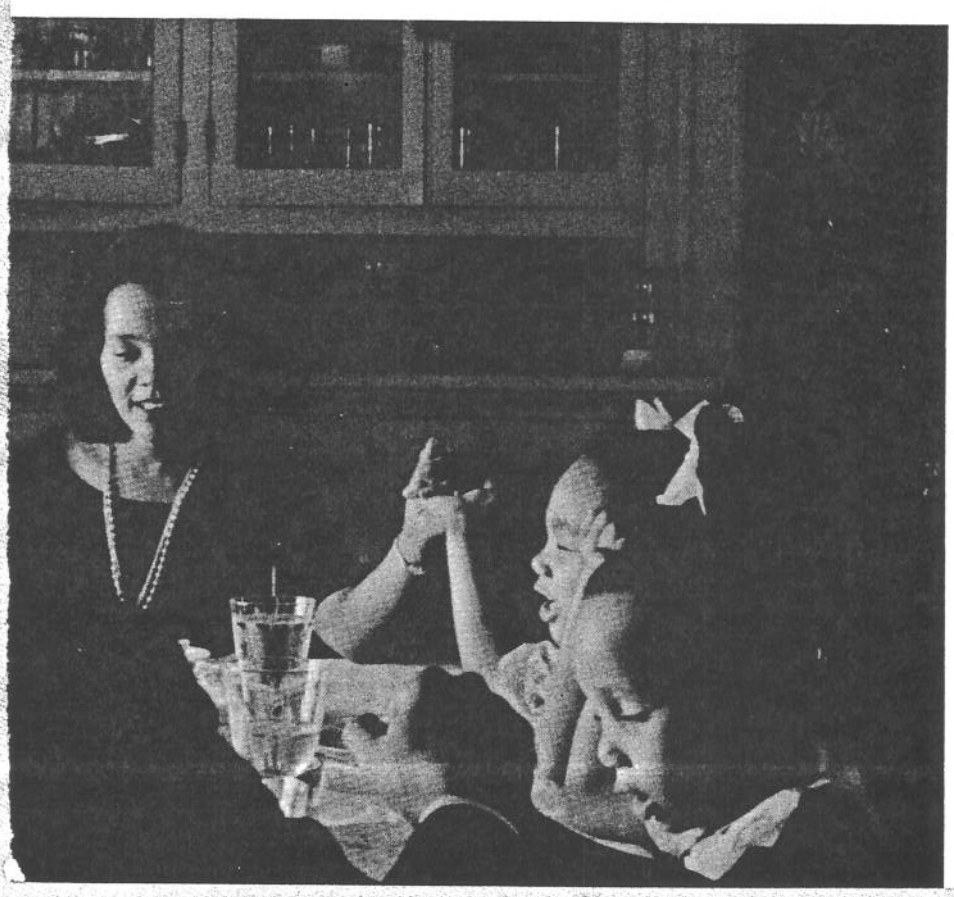
Gerold Frank, author of *The Boston Strangler* and other award-winning books, has spent more than three years researching Dr. King's assassination. In that time he has interviewed in depth virtually every person here and abroad who had anything to do with the case. Working with police intelligence reports and making use of private diaries, letters, and other confidential material, he has vividly recreated the events that took King to Memphis; the horror of the deed; the greatest manhunt in history; the mysterious, quick trial of James Earl Ray. His account is vast in scope, and his cast of characters includes scores of informers, investigators, newspapermen, lawyers, judges, and any number of unforgettable human portraits, chief among them those of Dr. King and his assassin.

An American Death is an extraordinary achievement. Based upon some of the most massive documentation ever assembled in a criminal case, it places the reader behind the scenes in one of the historic events of our time with such immediacy that he not only witnesses, but participates in the entire tragic, unfolding story. *An American Death* is a superb, suspenseful documentary that will become an American classic.

Publisher's Price $10.00 **Members' Price $7.95**



(WX8-APRIL 19)--IDENTIFIED AS SAME
today identified the man in these t
as James Earl Ray,sought in the sla
Martin Luther King Jr. Two days ago
released the photo at left and ider
as Eric Starvo Galt.The photo at ri
released today by the FBI with the
that Galt has now been identified a
escapee from the Missouri State Per
The FBI said the photo at left was
1968 and the one at right in 1960.

MAN--The FBI
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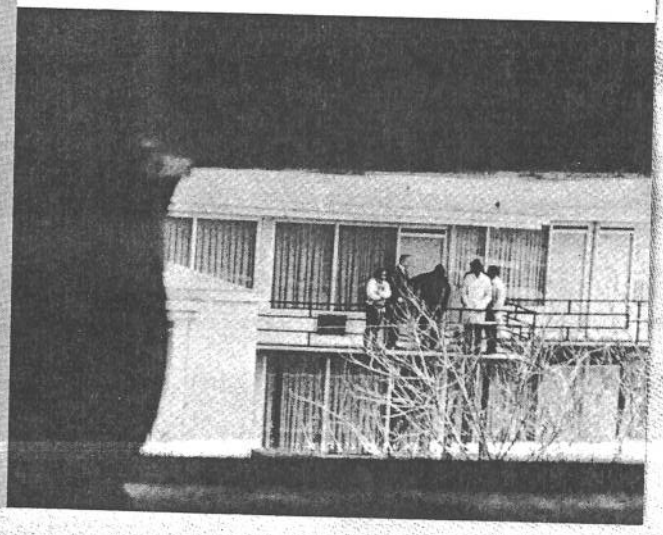
An American Death
Answers the Questions

- Did James Earl Ray fire the fatal shot?
- If he did, did he do so on his own, or as part of a conspiracy?
- How could he, a man ridiculed for his ineptness as a two-bit holdup man and burglar, manage to trail King to a hotel balcony, kill him with a single shot, escape with hundreds of police on the scene, assume the identities of three living men without their knowing it (actually traveling on the passport of one of them) and with the entire world hunting him, maneuver his way not only through the United States, but also through Canada and Europe, outwitting the police intelligence of half a dozen countries?
- Where did he get the money? Who told him what to do, how to do it, where to go? How did he obtain the passports? How did he, an almost illiterate hillbilly who had spent most of his life in jails, know how to carry out the thousand and one details necessary to manage all this?
- And why should he—or those behind him, if any—want to kill King in the first place? If he did it alone—why?
- Why did Ray plead guilty? What was the "deal" between State and defense, which made possible his plea and sentencing all in the course of one morning's court session?